(c) the names of the departments from whom clearance was obtained along with the total costs of the project and the amount spent, so far?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (c) As per information made available by the Ministry of Environment and Forest, the Government of Uttar Pradesh had taken up reclamation work in river Yamuna without due approval of the said Ministry.

The matter pertaining to Taj Heritage Corridor Project in Agra is a subject matter of the PIL filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court by Shri M.C. Mehta (WP 13381/84). Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on 16th July, 2003 directed the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to inquire into the entire issue and the matter is *subjudice.*

Protection and development of religious places in Uttaranchal

†255. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been formulated for protection and development of various religious places, temples etc. of Uttaranchal and also for expansion of facilities for tourists; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Under the provision of Section 4 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958; ancient monuments which are of historical, archaeological or artistic interest and which have been in existence for not less than 100 years are declared by Archaeological Survey of India as monuments of national importance through notification in the official gazette of India. Facilities for tourists like drinking water, toilets, signages, information centres are provided in some of the monuments subject to availability of resources. In the State of Uttaranchal, Patal Bhubaneswar Temple in district Pithoragarh has been declared as a monument of national importance. Archaeological Survey of India has been carrying out structural and chemical conservation works at Jageshwar (Almora, Uttranchal), and has also opened an Archeological Site Museum for the public last year.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.